

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A speaker arrangement comprising:

a speaker including a speaker diaphragm, and a speaker frame arrangement fixed to said speaker diaphragm about an outer periphery thereof so that said speaker diaphragm spans across an opening in said speaker frame arrangement, a fixing portion of said diaphragm being defined by a boundary at which said diaphragm meets a periphery of said opening of said frame arrangement;

a speaker grille supported by said speaker frame arrangement, said speaker grille having a sound opening therein;

wherein said speaker diaphragm includes a diaphragm center and a diaphragm edge portion and is fixed to said speaker frame arrangement in such a manner as to define a diaphragm vibration plane having a shape that is one of circular and oval;

wherein said speaker grille includes a blocking portion including a center blocking portion arranged so as to oppose said diaphragm center of said diaphragm, and a peripheral blocking portion constituting an outer periphery of said speaker grille and surrounding at least said sound opening;

wherein said sound opening includes an opening portion that is disposed so as to oppose a region of said diaphragm between said fixing portion and said diaphragm edge portion thereof; and

wherein an effective open area provided by said sound opening of said speaker grille is at least 31% and less than 60% of an area of said diaphragm.

15. (Previously Presented) The speaker arrangement of claim 14, wherein

said opening portion of said sound opening is disposed so as to oppose an outer circumference of said diaphragm edge portion.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 14, wherein said sound opening includes an outer boundary that is arc-shaped and parallel with said fixing portion.
17. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 14, wherein said sound opening is one of a plurality of sound openings of said speaker grille; and said blocking portion comprises reinforcement ribs separating said sound openings.
18. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 17, wherein said reinforcement ribs of said blocking portion extend outwardly from said center blocking portion of said blocking portion.
19. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 17, wherein said reinforcement ribs of said blocking portion extend radially outwardly from said center blocking portion of said blocking portion.
20. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 17, wherein each of said sound openings is an elongated sound opening; and said elongated sound openings are disposed so as to extend circumferentially inside of an outer circumference of said diaphragm.
21. **(Currently Amended)** A speaker arrangement comprising:
a speaker including a speaker diaphragm, and a speaker frame arrangement fixed to said speaker diaphragm about an outer periphery thereof so that said speaker diaphragm spans across

an opening in said speaker frame arrangement, a fixing portion of said diaphragm being defined by a boundary at which said diaphragm meets a periphery of said opening of said frame arrangement; and

a speaker grille supported by said speaker frame arrangement, said speaker grille having a sound opening therein;

wherein said speaker diaphragm includes a diaphragm center and a diaphragm edge portion and is fixed to said speaker frame arrangement in such a manner as to define a diaphragm vibration plane having a shape that is oblong and rounded;

wherein said speaker grille includes a blocking portion including a center blocking portion arranged so as to oppose said diaphragm center of said diaphragm, and a peripheral blocking portion constituting an outer periphery of said speaker grille and surrounding at least said sound opening;

wherein said sound opening includes an opening portion that is disposed so as to oppose a region of said diaphragm between said fixing portion and said diaphragm edge portion thereof; and

wherein an effective open area provided by said sound opening of said speaker grille is at least 22% and less than 60% of an area of said diaphragm.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 21, wherein the effective open area provided by said sound opening of said speaker grille is at least 48% and less than 60% of an area of said diaphragm.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The A-speaker arrangement of claim 21, wherein comprising:
~~a speaker including a speaker diaphragm, and a speaker frame arrangement fixed to said speaker diaphragm about an outer periphery thereof so that said speaker diaphragm spans across an opening in said speaker frame arrangement, a fixing portion of said diaphragm being defined~~

by a boundary at which said diaphragm meets a periphery of said opening of said frame arrangement; and

~~— a speaker grille supported by said speaker frame arrangement, said speaker grille having a plurality of sound openings therein;~~

said sound opening is one of a plurality of sound openings of said speaker grille;

~~wherein said speaker diaphragm includes a diaphragm center and a diaphragm edge portion and~~ is fixed to said speaker frame arrangement in such a manner as to define a diaphragm vibration plane having a shape that is rounded and oblong so as to have a minor axis, a major axis, shorter sides in a the direction of the minor axis, and longer sides in a the direction of the major axis; and

~~wherein said speaker grille includes a blocking portion including a center blocking portion arranged so as to oppose said diaphragm center of said diaphragm;~~

~~— wherein said sound openings each include an opening portion that is disposed so as to oppose a region of said diaphragm between said fixing portion and said diaphragm edge portion thereof; and~~

~~wherein said blocking portion includes reinforcement ribs separating said sound openings and extending in the direction of said minor axis of said vibration plane.~~

24. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 23, wherein
said reinforcement ribs of said blocking portion extend outwardly from said center
blocking portion of said blocking portion.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 24, wherein
said center blocking portion is elongated along the direction of said major axis of said
vibration plane.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 23, wherein

said center blocking portion is elongated along the direction of said major axis of said vibration plane.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 23, further comprising a magnet provided on a surface of said blocking portion opposing said diaphragm.

28. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~A~~ speaker arrangement of claim 21, wherein comprising:
~~—— a speaker including a speaker diaphragm, and a speaker frame arrangement fixed to said speaker diaphragm about an outer periphery thereof so that said speaker diaphragm spans across an opening in said speaker frame arrangement, a fixing portion of said diaphragm being defined by a boundary at which said diaphragm meets a periphery of said opening of said frame arrangement; and~~
~~—— a speaker grille supported by said speaker frame arrangement, said speaker grille having two sound openings therein;~~

said sound opening is one of two sound openings of said speaker grille;

~~wherein said speaker diaphragm includes a diaphragm center and a diaphragm edge portion and is fixed to said speaker frame arrangement in such a manner as to define a diaphragm vibration plane having a shape that is rounded and oblong so as to have a minor axis, a major axis, shorter sides in a the direction of the minor axis, and longer sides in a the direction of the major axis; and~~

~~wherein said speaker grille includes a blocking portion including a center blocking portion arranged so as to oppose said diaphragm center of said diaphragm;~~

~~—— wherein each of said sound openings includes an opening portion that is disposed so as to oppose a region of said diaphragm between said fixing portion and said diaphragm edge portion thereof; and~~

———~~wherein~~ said center blocking portion of said blocking portion constitutes a first rib extending in the direction of said major axis of said vibration plane so as to separate said two sound openings in the ~~a~~-direction of said minor axis of said vibration plane.

29. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 28, wherein
said blocking portion further includes second ribs extending in the direction of said minor axis of said vibration plane; and
said two sound openings each comprise plural sound opening portions separated by said second ribs.

30. **(Previously Presented)** The speaker arrangement of claim 28, further comprising
a magnet provided on a surface of said first rib of said blocking portion so as to oppose said diaphragm.